

REMARKS

Examiner Interview

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of the telephone interview on May 4, 2004 in which Applicant's counsel and the Examiner discussed the prior art reference to Sahiner and the compliance of Applicant's December 31, 2003 response with 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(b). The Examiner agreed with Applicant's counsel that Sahiner does not disclose a neural network, but no agreement was reached on the patentability of the claims over the other prior art cited by the Examiner. The Examiner also stated that the December response complied with Rule 111(b) and agreed to insert a statement to that effect into the record.

Rejections

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-6, 8, 10-17 and 19

Claims 1-6, 8, 10-17 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Sahiner et al., *Iterative Inversion of the Radon Transform*. Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 1-6, 8, 10-17 and 19 includes the limitation of "constructing a neural network of arbitrary complexity." Because the Examiner agrees that Sahiner does not disclose a neural network, Sahiner cannot anticipate Applicant's invention that constructs a neural network of arbitrary complexity as claimed in claims 1-6, 8, 10-17 and 19. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Sahiner.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 7, 9, 18 and 20 contain allowable subject matter if rewritten to include all the limitations of the claims from which they each originally depended. Applicant believes the claims are allowable as they stand and therefore has not amended the claims in this response.

SUMMARY

Claims 1-20 are currently pending. In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims.

If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Sue Holloway at (408) 720-3476.

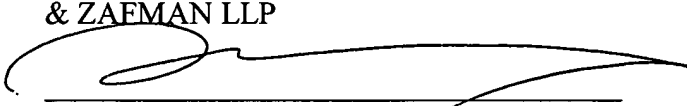
Deposit Account Authorization

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR
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Dated: MAY 10, 2004



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